

735738

SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT

MARYLAND STATE BOARD

OF

MOTION PICTURE CENSORS

1932 - 1933

BERNARD B. GOUGH  
Chairman

ASA C. SHARP  
Vice-Chairman and Treasurer

MARIE WHITE PRESSTMAN  
Secretary

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HELEN L. ODOM

Chief Clerk

Offices

211 NORTH CALVERT STREET

BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

HONORABLE ALBERT C. RITCHIE,  
Governor of Maryland.

Your Excellency:

As CHAIRMAN of the Maryland State Board of Motion Picture Censors I have the honor herewith to submit to you the Seventeenth Annual Report of the activities of the Board for the period from October 1, 1932, to September 30, 1933.

One of the first actions taken by the Board after my appointment on May 1st was the installation of an adequate sound equipment in the projection room of the Board. A new R.C.A. machine was purchased for the moderate sum of \$1,650 to replace the worn out and inferior equipment then in use.

I have endeavored, with the assistance of the other members of the Board, to maintain the high standard required by law with respect to the moral tone and qualities of the motion pictures exhibited within the State of Maryland; to safeguard and protect the youth of this state from the insidious influences of immoral films; and to improve, as far as possible, the moral tone of the output from the studios by deletions of undesirable scenes and dialogues, and by suggestions for the reconstruction of improper themes. In this way much film which would otherwise have been a total loss has been saved to the industry. The report which is appended shows that 676 films have been deleted, while ten subjects were rejected. Of the latter eight were so reconstructed as to meet with the final approval of this Board.

The members of the Board believe that the value of the services rendered by this Commission would be greatly enhanced if the Board's approval could be restricted in some cases to adult exhibitions. There are many films which are entirely unsuitable for children which, nevertheless, the Board feels constrained to pass under the present statute.

Indications of a widespread interest on the part of the thinking public with respect to the deleterious effects of motion pictures upon the health and mental attitudes of children have caused a renewed activity in behalf of better films for minors. However, a very inadequate number of films suitable for children are available. It therefore becomes the chief concern of the censor to protect the youth of this State from the unwholesome and corrupting influences of much that is shown upon the screen.

In carrying out the provisions of this Act, the Board believes that it has the support of that large portion of the public which is concerned with the guidance and protection of youth, and the public welfare in general.

Respectfully submitted,

BERNARD B. GOUGH, Chairman

December 31, 1933

# MARYLAND STATE BOARD OF MOTION PICTURE CENSORS

For the Fiscal Year Ended September 30, 1933

## RECEIPTS

### Fees:

Original Reels . . . . .	\$ 12,492.00
Duplicate Reels . . . . .	20,362.00
Substitute Seals . . . . .	1,015.00

\$33,869.00

Interest on Deposits . . . . .	4.44
Sale of Old Batteries . . . . .	2.00

2.00

\$33,875.44

### TOTAL RECEIPTS:

Remitted to State Treasury . . . . .	\$31,598.11
Interest to be Remitted . . . . .	.18
Fees Impounded in Union Trust Co. . . . .	2,277.15

.18

2,277.15

\$33,875.44

## EXPENSES

Salaries . . . . .	\$25,336.00
Office Supplies and Stationery . . . . .	236.28
Printing . . . . .	276.77
Film Approval Seals . . . . .	1,687.50
Motion Picture Machine Supplies . . . . .	323.00
Office Equipment Repairs . . . . .	34.15
Light, Heat, Power and Water . . . . .	235.56
Traveling . . . . .	512.85
Transportation . . . . .	7.32
Communication . . . . .	316.65
Insurance . . . . .	60.00
Office Equipment . . . . .	86.90
Motion Picture Equipment . . . . .	2,673.61
Rent . . . . .	2,400.00

236.28

276.77

1,687.50

323.00

34.15

235.56

512.85

7.32

316.65

60.00

86.90

2,673.61

2,400.00

\$34,186.59



Maryland State Board of Motion Picture Censors

For the Fiscal Year Ended September 30, 1933

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BUDGET ACCOUNT (PER COMPTROLLER)

Appropriation, 1933 . . . . .	\$33,801.00	
Appropriated Receipts . . . . .	1,330.00	
Refunds to Credit of Budget . . . . .	<u>21.34</u>	
		\$35,152.34

Less-Disbursements by State Treasury for Expenses . . . . .		<u>34,207.93</u>
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Unexpended Balance, September 30, 1933, reverted to State Treasury . . . . .		<u>\$94441</u>
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WORKING FUND

On Deposit at Union Trust Company:		
Restricted . . . . .	\$380.00	
Unrestricted . . . . .	<u>20.00</u>	

Total Working Fund September 30, 1933 .		<u>\$400.00</u>
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MARYLAND STATE BOARD OF MOTION PICTURE CENSORS  
REPORT OF FILMS EXAMINED

OCTOBER 1, 1932 - SEPTEMBER 30, 1933

	Films		Reels		Feet		Films Approved	Re-jected	Eliminated
	Original	Duplicate	Original	Duplicate	Original	Duplicate			
October	234	629	703	1,985	594,733	1,687,345	815	0	48
November	230	668	634	1,895	527,611	1,609,257	844	0	54
December	192	620	582	1,881	486,927	1,587,343	767	0	45
January	229	662	664	2,063	560,735	1,746,810	855	2	34
February	178	576	556	2,763	469,511	1,494,081	697	0	57
March	211	629	576	1,976	477,566	1,673,060	777	1	62
April	175	544	528	1,627	449,340	1,380,722	669	2	48
May	184	609	503	1,865	422,434	1,605,244	698	1	94
June	190	526	483	686	391,954	1,444,870	627	2	87
July	153	506	481	1,537	406,062	1,254,892	593	0	66
August	181	523	410	1,473	340,731	1,245,306	649	0	55
September	168	554	471	1,742	385,789	1,536,713	694	2	26
	2,325	7,046	6,591	21,523	5513,393	18,265,643	8685	*10	676

\*

Eight films later passed in reconstructed form.

SUMMARY OF REPORT

Films, Original	2,325
Films, Duplicate	7,046
Reels, Original	6,591
Reels, Duplicate	21,523
Number of Feet, Original	5,513,393
Number of Feet, Duplicate	18,265,643
Films Approved	8,685
Films Rejected	10
Films Eliminated	676
	9,371
	28,114
	23,779,036
	9,371

CLASSIFICATION OF FILMS  
OCTOBER 1, 1932 - SEPTEMBER 30, 1933

	DRAMAS	COMEDIES	NEWS	CARTOONS	ADVERTISING	MISCELLANEOUS
October	250	198	293	40	6	76
November	219	240	292	69	9	69
December	219	185	302	47	7	52
January	235	272	277	46	5	56
February	207	197	257	55	5	33
March	219	198	298	83	10	32
April	187	184	258	28	13	49
May	199	222	260	61	10	41
June	190	144	244	79	8	51
July	182	156	255	35	6	25
August	146	221	253	34	14	36
September	<u>196</u>	<u>195</u>	<u>255</u>	<u>39</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>34</u>
	2,449	2,412	3,244	616	96	554